EBIO 306
Independent Research for Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Undergraduates

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Office: Anderson Biology Lab 135C **Office Hours**: By appointment **Lab:** ABL 125

Overview
Students participate in original research in ecology and evolutionary biology under the supervision of a faculty instructor and/or research mentor culminating in a research paper and/or presentation. Open only to undergraduate majors with permission of the instructor. Course may be repeated for credit.

Course Learning Goals
By the end of the course, students are expected to have:

- an understanding of at least one level of biological organization (i.e. genetic, genomic, cellular, organismal, population, community, or ecosystem); and
- an understanding of the practice and culture of science and scientific ethics.

By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- locate and read primary scientific literature;
- collect and analyze data using common statistical methods and software programs; and
- communicate effectively about original scientific research.

Location, Time, and Expectations
Schedule, workspace, and specific expectations will be arranged with the research mentor. On average, students should expect to spend approximately 3 hours per week per credit hour working on their research projects. If receiving two or more credits, students may be required to participate in the annual Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium (RURS) in the spring semester. Students are expected to be self-motivated and are responsible for maintaining regular communication with the instructor.

Grading
Final course grades are based on the completion of duties as assigned as well as effort and participation as determined by the research mentor.

Honor Code
See official Rice University Honor System policies (http://honor.rice.edu/). Any use of outside resources (including published and unpublished research, websites, or personal communication) should be clearly cited on all assignments. Policies in Rice University's General Announcements apply to this course.

Students with Disabilities
If you have a disability that will impact your work in this class, please speak with the instructor during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Additionally, you must contact Disability Support Services (http://dss.rice.edu/) located in the Allen Center, Room 111.